

OFFER PUPILS \$250 IN PRIZES

SHOP HERE CONTEST VOTED

48 Cash Awards Offered in Essay Competition in Torrance

ALL STUDENTS ELIGIBLE Subject Is "Why Torrance Shoppers Should Buy in Torrance"

To stimulate home town patriotism, promote shopping in Torrance and encourage essay composition by children of the city members of the Chamber of Commerce Wednesday noon unanimously approved an essay contest among Torrance school students with 48 cash prizes aggregating \$250 for the best 250 word essays on the subject, "Why Torrance Shoppers Should Buy in Torrance."

The trade promotion committee of the Chamber recommended the contest. The committee was Dr. George P. Shidler, Rev. R. A. Young, Carl L. Hyde, E. C. Nelson and W. Harold Kingsley.

Rules of the contest will be as follows: 1—Any school student resident of Torrance shall be eligible to compete.

2—Essays must not exceed 250 words in length and must be written on one side of the paper.

3—Essays must be at the office of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce by 5 p. m., Monday, Dec. 10.

4—Judges will be selected by the committee.

5—In case of essays judged of equal merit the one which is the more neat will be considered the winner.

6—Judges will take into consideration the ages of contestants in judging the essays.

7—Prizes will be awarded as follows: first, \$25; second, \$15; third, \$10; fourth, \$7.50; fifth, \$5.00; three prizes of \$2.50 each; 40 prizes of \$2 each; 100 prizes of \$1 each.

Students entering the contest, the committee advises should study shopping conditions in Torrance. A statement by the committee follows: "Contestants will do well to study conditions so that they can write intelligently. The essays should give as many reasons as possible why trading in Torrance is advisable for Torrance people. These reasons are not only economic, but are based on home town loyalty and the obligation of the public to merchants who contribute to charitable, religious and civic organizations in the city. The question can be viewed from a large number of standpoints and should be so viewed by contestants. The large number of prizes should call forth many essays. Children are advised to talk the matter over with their parents before writing essays."

Dr. Norman Leake and Rev. Young were appointed a committee to announce the weekly luncheon to the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs respectively.

Alfred Gourdier requested that a committee be appointed to investigate the possibility of inducing the county and state to acquire a portion of the Torrance beach as a public park.

Wallace Gilbert urged the early paving of Arlington avenue north to the General Petroleum site. City Engineer Frank Leonard explained that this road should be extended to 190th street to serve the General Petroleum plant and link it up to Torrance as well as giving an outlet to the north.

Charles Vonderabe reported that proceedings for the improvement of Homeland have again been delayed in the Los Angeles city hall. A resolution was passed urging City Councilman Cadden to endeavor to speed up these proceedings and pointing out the urgent need of residence lots in the Torrance district such as the improvement would open up for development.

Sam Levy said that the committee appointed to report on the ad-

Health Officers Issue Warnings

300 Under Doctors' Care Here; Stay Home with Colds, Advice

The sweep of influenza over Southern California struck Torrance and Lomita this week. In Torrance, it is estimated 300 persons are under the care of physicians. The county health department has issued a like number under treatment in Lomita.

Attendance at school is materially decreased and this week more and more children failed to appear each day. School nurses, taking temperatures, sent many pupils to their homes.

The influenza now prevalent all over the county is not so virulent as was that of 1918, although some physicians declare it is the same, but that its effect is dulled due to natural processes of immunization.

At the same time health authorities assert that every person should take every reasonable precaution if taken with a "cold" and that those who are infected should isolate themselves in their homes.

The county health department has issued a bulletin warning persons with "colds" not to attend public gatherings, but to remain at home so that others will not be liable to infection.

Those under the care of a physician are being warned against fatigue during convalescence and cautioned not to go about until complete recovery is positively assured.

Health authorities are not alarmed over the situation but request that the public assist in stamping out the infection by observing the need for isolation as a sensible measure against the exposure of others.

Lone Bandit In Daring Holdup

Shells Station in Torrance; Marches Attendant Away with Gun

A lone bandit entered the Shell service station here Tuesday evening about 8:15 and obtained \$38.19 in cash.

A. A. Todd, attendant on duty, was inside the station, with the boy closed. Seeing a man come up to the door, and supposing that he wanted gasoline, Todd opened the door. The bandit put his foot inside, shoved a gun in Todd's ribs and demanded all the money in the house.

After obtaining the money, he walked back through the alley to El Prado street, then told him to return to the station.

Todd returned and gave in the alarm, which was answered by Officers Ben Malin and J. B. Edwards. The officers scoured the town and surrounding community but failed to locate anyone answering the description given by the attendant. Todd stated that he was unable to ascertain whether or not the bandit escaped in a car.

The bandit was about 5 feet, 9 inches in height, weighed 150 or 160 pounds, and was about 25 years old. He was dressed in blue bib overalls, black shoes, slats colored cap, heavy brown and black plaid woolen shirt, and a dark coat.

Eno Purchases Warehouse Bldg.

Roy Musser, president of the Eno Rubber Corporation, one of the major industries of Torrance announced Monday that the company has purchased a large two-story building at 110-112-114 East 17th street, Los Angeles for general offices and warehouse.

The expanding business of the company with its increasing production here necessitated the move, according to Mr. Musser. The building just acquired is being completely remodeled to suit the needs of the company. The warehouse department will be fitted with hundreds of spacious steel shelves.

The Eno company has enjoyed a steady growth since acquisition of the Homerie plant in Torrance and with the expansion in the sales branch and additional warehouse facilities in Los Angeles production here is expected to be increased even more.

PARKWAY DEBATE WARM

Proponents and Opponents of 225-Foot Project Argue in Torrance

O'MELVENY IS SPEAKER Importance of 5 1/2 Miles of Route Inside Torrance Limits Mooted

Beauty with utility clashed with costs and local interests when proponents and opponents of the Hollywood-Fairway parkway project engaged in a warm argument over the proposed improvement at the Torrance City hall Wednesday afternoon.

The meeting was called to discuss the project before a special committee of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and Torrance city officials. Of the committee City Engineer Frank Leonard, Wallace Gilbert and G. A. B. Steiner were present. Donald Phidley was absent. Of the trustees Mayor Dennis and Councilman Wolfe were present.

Henry W. O'Melveny, representing the Community Development association, powerful group of five Los Angeles newspapers, president. Representatives of several large interests owning property along the proposed route of the parkway were present. The debate waxed hot several times.

Charles H. Cheney, city planner, associated with the Union Verdez Estates and one of the engineers engaged by the county to prepare plans for the 225-foot parkway spoke first. He declared that approximately 5 1/2 miles of the right of way lies in Torrance and that of this almost 5 miles will be donated.

He declared positively that the cost of the project would not exceed 15 per cent of the assessed valuation of land in the proposed assessment district and that it probably would be less than 15 per cent. He said that if Torrance insists on a parkway narrower than 225 feet he would purpose of the project would be defeated. He said that if the route were changed the project would be delayed at least four months. He pleaded for Torrance to remain in the district and support the project.

City Engineer Frank Leonard, chairman of the special Torrance committee, backed by a resolution passed at the luncheon Wednesday noon urged that the route of the parkway in Torrance be changed and that its width be 120 instead of 225 feet. The present route proceeds along Cedar avenue to a point near Redondo boulevard and then angles southwest across the 40th tract to Madrona avenue, thence diagonally across the Del Amo ranch to the Hollywood-Riviera which it bisects. Mr. Leonard proposed that the road proceed south on Cedar to Carson street, west on Carson to Madrona, then across the Del Amo ranch.

Mr. Leonard asserted that the cost of the parkway might be too heavy a burden for taxpayers in an industrial city. He pointed out the desire locally to improve the 40th tract with paving, walks, sewers and curbs and said that this local improvement cost plus the parkway cost would make the land too high priced for workmen to live on. He stressed the point that at present the 40th tract is about the only one available for residential development in Torrance.

Cites Opposition Mr. LaRue, representing the O. T. Johnson interests, owners of 1550 acres fronting on the proposed route and three other owners declared these owners opposed to a 225 foot parkway. He said they would support a 100 foot boulevard improvement and donate their share of the land for it. He declared the improvement would cost about \$10,000,000. Mr. Cheney denied the truth of this estimate and the two engaged in a sharp debate. Mr. Cheney said competent engineers' estimates place the total cost of grading, draining, paving

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TWO MEN COMMIT SUICIDE

Edward Powell, After Quarrel with Teacher Wife Shoots Self

EACH WAS DESPONDENT John Hughes, Torrance Carpenter, Leaves Widow and 4 Children

Two men well known in Torrance and Lomita committed suicide on Thanksgiving Day. Despondency was given as the cause of both acts. Both had frequently threatened to kill themselves.

Edward Powell, 46, husband of a teacher in the Torrance Elementary school and brother of George Powell, janitor at the grammar school in Torrance committed suicide Thanksgiving Day afternoon at his home at 1780 Eshelman avenue, Lomita. While a 32 caliber revolver, he put two bullets into his head. Police who investigated say he pulled the trigger five times, but only two shells fired.

Officials declare an investigation revealed that Powell had quarreled with his wife two days ago. Thursday morning he left home and went to the home of his father-in-law, Mr. J. W. Powell, at 3300 Fir street. His father told him to go into the house and lie down.

In an hour or so Powell's sons, one 18 and one 17, went into the house to see how their father was getting along. Powell was gone, the gun which was generally under the pillow was gone also. Alarmed the boys hurried home and warned their mother and her daughter by a former marriage that Powell had left the Fir street home with a gun.

The mother and daughter left the house at once. Then the boys reported to Sergeant Stroth at the Fir street home. In the meantime the Lomita telephone operator had notified San Pedro police and Deputy Constable Strait of Lomita. They arrived at the Eshelman home too late. Powell was dead. His son first discovered the body.

Powell was a brother of Mrs. William Shoemaker of Camino Real, Torrance.

John L. Hughes, carpenter, aged 68, House J. Spurrin court, father of four, died in a bed at 11:30 last night saying he was going to commit suicide. He has made such a statement several times before and the family was not worried. Hughes climbed to the attic, mounted to the top of a hot water tank, shot himself in the mouth, died instantly. The body fell to the back porch.

Mrs. Hughes, aged 44, told Officers Ben Olsen and Frank Schumacher that there had been no family quarrel, that Hughes had been despondent recently, was generally that way when out of work.

Hughes leaves two sons, John, 26, and William, 20; and two daughters, Cornelia, 18 and Beatrice, 24.

Scouts Will Take Trip to Yosemite

A five day trip to Yosemite and the deep snow for only \$5.

That's what members of Torrance Troop No. 3, Boy Scouts have ahead of them during the Christmas vacation. Fred Kern of the Kern Creamery has donated a truck which will be driven by Frank Steinhilber. Fifteen boys have already made their reservations. The trip was announced sometime ago so the lads could earn \$5 a piece.

Troop No. 4, with seven Eagle Scouts and 28 members leads the harbor district and has done so every month for 23 months with the exception of one month when leadership was taken by San Pedro Troop No. 6. The local troop gave the San Pedro troop a party last week and inter-troop games preceded refreshments.

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Observations

Girding for the War of Trade—Our Cruiser Bill and Fool Petitions—Plane Crashes and Auto Deaths—Recalling the Hike to Heinleind

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

AT Geneva Great Britain forced a delay in naval limitations by refusing to concede us the right to build cruisers weighing 10,000 tons with a cruising radius commensurate with the long distances between our naval bases.

Then she signed a secret treaty with France, lining up the Paris government on her side in the cruiser controversy. The secret pact was discovered by an American newspaper man and made public.

Then came our election at which Herbert Hoover was named for the Presidency.

ALL the returns were not in yet when President Coolidge on Armistice, delivered his astonishingly frank rebuke to European diplomacy and Herbert Hoover left on a "good will" trip to South America.

All these fragments go to make up a plain picture. It is a picture of a gigantic world struggle for commerce. Navies are built primarily for the purpose of promoting, and defending a nation's foreign trade. We intend to have a navy suited to this purpose.

European cartels—international trusts—have been forming since the war to combat us in our foreign markets.

To meet the challenge we have elected a president admirably suited to the task of increasing our exports. We have an administration solemnly urging the passage of the cruiser bill at the short session of congress. We have a president-elect touring South and Central America in the admitted interests of commerce.

The cruiser bill should be passed. The government should encourage the construction and operation of a large merchant marine to fly the American flag.

Unless these two things are done our protestations in diplomacy are empty words and our move for the kind of a navy suited to our own needs a meaningless gesture.

LET'S not hamper the state department nor the administration by fool petitions and telegrams which play directly into the hands of nations which are doing their best to knock the props from under our foreign markets.

We've mentioned this before—but the cruiser bill is coming up again soon and it ought to pass. But it won't pass unless uninformed pacifists keep their mouths shut.

SKILLFUL lobbyists in Washington declare that with a million dollars they can defeat any bill before congress. How's that for a commentary on democracy. Let's see if the charge is true. Alas, it seems to be.

A million dollars will employ a lot of public speakers. Well paid they can go out through the country, addressing clubs, meetings, gatherings of all sorts, pointing out the dangers of some particular piece of legislation they are paid to oppose. At each meeting the good folks are asked to sign a petition. A telegram is wired to congressmen and senators. These gentlemen, always considering re-election vote as the flood of such telegrams and petitions dictates.

ORGANIZATIONS which encourage the sending of telegrams simply because some speaker has urged it are plain dumb. When you hear some oratorical spellbinder extol the virtues of this bill or the iniquities of that, be sure you know who inspired his speech before you swallow it whole. And don't sign any petition until you know all about its import. Nothing is true just because somebody says it is.

WE would be the last to deny Americans the right of petition. Our peevish is against the ignorant and irresponsible manner in which it is employed.

The right of petition should be utilized only to force legislation by overwhelming popular demand or to check legislation obviously vicious. To use it every day at the veiled behest of special interests not only thwarts the aims of democracy but steals weight from worthy popular petitions.

EVERY time an airplane crashes and someone is killed it is front page news. Los Angeles papers give prominent display to news of air accidents which occur 2000 miles away. But every hour of every day men and women are being killed in train and automobile accidents which get no publicity at all in newspapers far away.

We don't blame the papers. Air travel is new. Its vicissitudes are of new interest. And yet airplane accidents prominently recorded halt aerial progress. In the light of the vast and increasing number of miles flown every day few accidents occur. Newspapers could promote air-travel by giving aerial crashes no more prominent display than that accorded to distant train wrecks and automobile accidents.

TEN years ago yesterday I was washing my shirt. I was washing my shirt in the Moselle river in the historic Luxembourg city of Echternach made famous by the Benedictine Monks. On the Luxembourg side of the river I had lots of American company—soldiers washing their shirts—and their what-nots.

On the German side of the river other soldiers washed their clothes. They were German soldiers. We were hiking to the Rhine, victorious. They were hiking to the Rhine, vanquished. We marched faster than they did and every few days had to slow down to let them get ahead.

WE scrubbed, looking across at our former so-called enemies. Suddenly a German shouted in New York east side English: "Hey what the hell do you birds think this is—a foot race? For the love Mike, slow down. Don't you know the war's over?" That released a hundred tongues—and I guess more good-natured profanity rolled across the breast of the Moselle during the next fifteen minutes than that historic stream ever bosomed before or ever will again—in any old language.

Soldiers of the Third Army—will you ever forget that hike to Heinleind?

JAIL SON IN DAWN BRAWL

Van Raalt Family All Night Party at Harbor Ends With Shot

MOTHER HIT; SON JAILED Woman, Seeking to Prevent Gun Play, Receives Bullet in Hip

A family "party" lasting until dawn, an argument between father and son, pistol shots aimed at the father by the son put Mrs. Cora Van Raalt (the mother in the hospital with a bullet in her hip) laid the father low with a bullet in his leg and landed the son, John Van Raalt, 24, in jail on a charge of attempt of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to commit murder.

The Van Raalt family lives at 2605 Carson street, Torrance. The shooting occurred at Thirteenth and Pacific streets, Los Angeles harbor shortly before dawn Sunday morning.

The mother, police say, threw herself in front of her husband to save his life when the son, during an altercation, shouted "I'm going to finish this once and for all" and aimed a revolver at his father.

Mrs. Van Raalt is in the Seaside Hospital, Long Beach. The bullet is said to have fractured her hip. She will recover.

It was not known until Tuesday that the father had been struck in an endeavor to shield his son the elder Van Raalt took to his bed at home in Torrance. A physician, called Tuesday, discovered a bullet in the man's leg with a serious infection having set in.

Police say the climax at dawn came after an all night party in which mother, father, son, daughter Helen, a nurse and one Ray Nyall participated.

The group, according to police, arrived at the harbor about 11 o'clock Saturday night, having driven from Torrance. It is ascertained that members of the group possessed and drank liquor. A quarrel is said to have arisen between the father and mother and the son became angered at his father on this account.

The son shouted that he "would finish this." The father leaped from the automobile and the son reached into the car for a gun.

He drew it forth and leveled it at his father. The mother jumped from the car and threw herself between the father and son, hoping thus to avert a shooting. She was too late. The son pulled the trigger and the bullet struck his mother. Later it appeared that she fired twice. The revolver was a 45 caliber automatic.

Mrs. Van Raalt was taken to the Emergency Hospital at San Pedro and then removed to the Seaside at Long Beach. The son was taken into custody and lodged in the Los Angeles Harbor jail.

Arraigned before Municipal Judge Austin at San Pedro Tuesday young Van Raalt was unable to furnish \$5,000 bail.

Two Are Injured as Autos Collide

Flora Chilton and William P. Lindley of Venice, were injured Monday afternoon when the car in which they were riding, crashed into a truck making a left turn on the Wilmington-Heddena boulevard about 1/2 mile from Watteria.

They were taken to the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital where they were treated for their injuries.

J. Disney, 1631 Almond street Long Beach, was the driver of the gravel truck making the turn.

DINNER CALLED OFF The monthly Brotherhood dinner scheduled for Monday night at the M. E. church, was canceled early this morning, on account of the influenza epidemic.

Monday, January 7 is the date set for the next dinner.